STATE OF MAINE
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Docket No. 2003-911

January 5, 2004

MAINE PUBLIC SERVICE COMPANY Request For An Accounting Order to Permit the Deferral, and Rate Treatment For Costs Related to the Installation of Information Technology Systems NOTICE OF PROCEEDING

I. DESCRIPTION OF FILING

On December 11, 2003, Maine Public Service Company (MPS or Company) filed a request that the Commission issue an Accounting Order authorizing the Company to defer and amortize for future recovery in rates training and "business process reengineering" costs associated with the adoption of the Company's new financial information system software. According to the Company, these were costs which were not included in the Company's recently concluded rate case, are not normally capitalized under GAAP, and are of the nature which the Company believes should be treated in a manner consistent with other implementation costs.

II. INTERVENTION

Parties wishing to intervene in this matter should file a petition to intervene with the Commission in accordance with Section 722 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure no later than January 15, 2004.

III. CASE CONFERENCE

An initial case conference in this matter has been scheduled for <u>January 22</u>, <u>2004 at 11:00 a.m.</u> At such time, the following issues will be addressed:

- a. objections to petitions to intervene;
- b. the inter-relationship between this request and the issues decided in the Company's recent rate case, Docket No. 2003-85; and
- c. a schedule for processing the Company's request.

Parties or interested persons may participate in the conference via telephone. If telephone participation is desired, please contact Lorry Plante at 287-1566 by January 21, 2004.

IV. **SERVICE**

A copy of this notice shall be mailed to the service list in Docket No. 2003-85.

Dated at Augusta, Maine, this 5th day of January, 2004.

BY ORDER OF THE HEARING EXAMINER

Charles Cohen